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Snapshot of statistical lows and highs in regional NSW: ABS

The Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) had the lowest number of licensed drivers in the state, while Bogan LGA had the most Aussie born people and Manly the lowest death rate, according to a regional snapshot released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Some selected highlights for NSW and regional areas include:

- New South Wales official population was 6.8 million at 30 June 2006. The state had an annual average growth rate of 0.7% during 2001-2006. The LGA of Sydney had the highest growth in the period (4.9%) while Bourke LGA had the lowest (-4.0%).
- In 2006 the average fertility rate in NSW was 1.79 babies per woman. Sydney LGA had the lowest fertility rate in NSW at 0.91 babies per woman, whilst the highest was in Lockhart LGA at 2.74 babies per woman.
- The death rate for NSW was 6.1 per 1,000 people in 2006. Manly LGA had the lowest death rate at 4.4 deaths per 1,000 people, whereas, Jerilderie had the highest at 21.7 deaths per 1,000 people.
- NSW on average had a 5% unemployment rate during 2006-07. The Northern Beaches region had the lowest unemployment rate (2.3%), whilst Illawarra (excluding Wollongong) had the highest at 8.4%.
- Over two-thirds of the state were born in Australia (69%). The Bogan LGA had the highest proportion of people born in Australia (92%), while Auburn LGA had the least with just over one-third (37%) of people born in Australia.
- One in five people (20%) spoke a language other than English at home. In Warren less than 1% of people (0.5%) spoke a language other than English at home, whereas, in the Fairfield LGA over two-thirds (67%) of people spoke another language at home.
- Eight out of ten (83%) people 16 years and older hold a drivers licence. Ku-ring-gai had the highest number of licensed drivers (97%) while the Sydney LGA had the lowest (61%).

More details are available in *New South Wales Regional Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 1368.1).

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